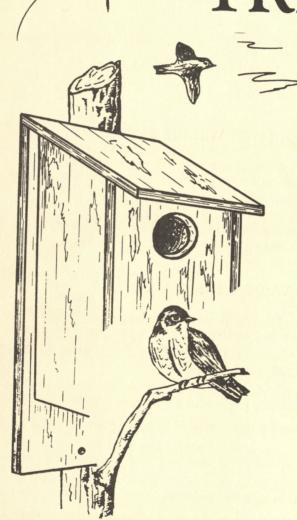
# PEQUOT CONNECTICUT COLLEGE LIBRARY NEW LONDON, CONN.

TRAILS



Published Quarterly by the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Incorporated MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

# The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary

INCORPORATED
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

CURATOR WILLIAM WYLIE

# A CONSERVATION PROGRAM OF EDUCATION AND RECREATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

## WHAT IS THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY?

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Connecticut for the purpose of promoting a community program of conservation education. The program includes work for the preservation and restoration of our natural resources.

It is a unique community enterprise in that it is supported entirely by interested citizens through memberships and contributions.

## THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY:

Maintains 125 acres of land for the purpose of teaching others the ways and values of protection and restoration of our birds, wildlife and other natural resources.

Maintains a trailside museum and a series of nature trails which tell the story of nature in a most instructive and fascinating manner.

In co-operation with the schools, girl scouts, boy scouts, community centers and other youth organizations, promotes a program of conservation education for children.

Conducts a year around program of field trips and activities for members.

Operates a bird-banding station in conjunction with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and co-operates with state and local conservation agencies.

Through personal guidance of the Curator, serves as a source of information and help on local and national conservation problems.

Furnishes information relative to the value of conservation to many individuals and organizations through correspondence, the press, and lectures.

Pursues a long range development program that insures a permanent and increasingly beneficial service to all local communities.

# PEQUOT TRAILS

Vol. XIV

Winter 1962

No. 4

# The New Curator



Robert F. Kunz arrived on the grounds September 23rd, to take over his duties as the new Curator. Well qualified for his job, he was the unanimous choice of

Mr. Kunz has had laboratory experience with Chas. Pfizer & Co. of Brooklyn, Mr. Kunz has had laboratory experience with Chas. Pfizer & Co. of Brooklyn, N. Y. and more recently with Smith, Kline & French Laboratories of Philadelphia. At Pfizer's he was animal health representative to veterinary and agricultural customers and assisted in research with both wild and domestic animals, and with birds, particularly relating to climatic, nutritional and habitat factors. During the past summer he was recreational supervisor with the United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. He has also done what is called "medical detailing" with physicians. Mr. Kunz has specialized in a rather uniusual field, having made personal investigations in the fields of Ecology and Ornithology particularly with predaceous birds, feeding and raising the young and releasing them in the Fall.

Born in Berlin, Germany, he came to America at the age of six months. He is a graduate of Mamaroneck High School, Mamaroneck, N. Y., and completed his education at the University of Vermont, majoring in agriculture and zoology, and graduating in 1954. He has served with the United States Air Force.

It was while serving in the Air Force, at Harrisburg, Pa. that he met his wife, Marie. The couple have one daughter, Susan, who will be five on January 19th.

His interest and knowledge of wildlife and conservation dates from boyhood, when he used to go with his father to their hunting and fishing camp near Brattleboro, Vt. He could well have successfully followed his medical research work with humans or with animals, but, as he says, when he was approaching thirty, recently, he "sat down and took a long look at himself" and questioned whether he wanted to make a lot of money or to make his life work one more rewarding

## PEQUOT TRAILS

Published quarterly, Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter, by the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc., Mystic, Conn.

#### A Statement of Purpose:

We want this publication to be of the utmost service to you—to keep you informed concerning activities at the Sanctuary and in your community; to invite your participation in these activities; and to provide you with general articles of education and inspiration regarding conservation subjects. Won't you drop us a line and tell us what you would like to see published? We would appreciate it.

Robert F. Kunz, Curator Tel. Mystic JEfferson 6-9777

# Wildlife Program

A series of special educational lectures or movies is announced for the second Wednesdays of the months of January, February and March.

## Free to Our Members

On the evenings of January 9, February 13 and March 13, a worthwhile program on wildlife will be given. Non-members may come, of course, at 50c each. Watch your newspapers for the individual announcements, and mark the dates **now** on your calendar.

in other ways. He chose the latter, and so it was that he was ready to act upon his resolve and to dedicate himself to his chosen career just at the time Sanctuary officers began the hunt for a new Curator.

Robert Kunz has some definite views as to his job already and some hopes for the future of the Sanctuary he now heads. He wants to see more exhibits, for one thing. Changing exhibits, he feels, would keep our members coming in and would be also good for the "repeaters" in school groups. He has found an exceptional egg collection in storage which he is anxious to put on display. He knows, he says, that there are those who might think such an exhibition will tend to encourage youngsters to rob nests, but the educational possibilities, he feels, outweigh that danger. Knowledge, he feels, is less dangerous than ignorance.

Multiple use of our forest and wildlife areas? He takes a cautious but not dissenting view. Multiple use, he says, is here to stay, but there is the ever present danger that some commercial interests will have to be watched lest the situation become unbalanced and mining or timbering can too easily be expanded to the detriment of wildlife and our own water uses. There are vast areas where he feels we have enough timber resources, for instance, so that other areas can be set aside as natural areas without detriment to the multiple use areas.

# Silent Spring - Noisy Autumn

Of course you've heard of and hold an opinion on the controversial Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" (Houghton-Mifflin). The mild-mannered, quiet lady of "The Sea Around Us" finds herself all of a sudden engulfed. There are, as usual, two sides, each with a fearsome amount of truth, to the uncontrolled use of pesticides.

"the picture is frightening: a world where bees no longer buzz in gardens, where robins' eggs lie cold in the nest, where rivers are studded with the bodies of dead and dying fish, and where a rain puddle can become a cup of death for wild and domestic animals. It is a world where meadows and woodlands wither and the balance of nature is tilted toward oblivion."

(the quotations are from LIFE magazine)

"a world left unguarded by pesticides would soon become as desolate as the world of **Silent Spring** . . . the arable acres of the world would soon be ravaged by unhampered hordes of grasshoppers, weevils and other insect marauders. Surplus food stored would vanish, whole populations would starve, disease would spread unchecked, rivers and fields would be choked with weeds, and fish might succumb to predators as rapidly as they die from carelessly sprayed poisons."

## **Former Curator**

William L. Wylie, Curator for five years, left Pequot-sepos Sanctuary September 24 for his new assignment with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife of the United States Department of the Interior, at Elkins, W. Va.

Wylie came to his decision chiefly out of considerations for the future security of his growing family. The Sanctuary had just built a new four-bedroom house for its Curator but the emoluments and the security of government service were the convincing factors in

his decision to leave.

He had come to the Mystic Sanctuary to succeed Thomas McElroy, whose resignation had taken effect June 15, 1957. The Sanctuary's museum and workshop was then the Denison Homestead barn, and the Curator's residence the Denison Homestead itself. years later plans were approved for a new museum and lecture hall, and the formal opening was held May 15, 1960, the building having been erected large-Less than a ly with volunteer help. year later plans were advanced for a Curator's residence and the new home was opened with a house-warming on June 13, 1962. Thus Mr. Wylie experienced the Society's greatest period of expansion and prosperity in its history. Membership had grown from 508 to more than 650. A gift of more than 93 acres of land on Anguilla Road gave the growing institution an upland area quite different in character from the 125 acre tract it had been studying and improving for sixteen years. Yet all was not unalloyed tranquillity, for in addition to his normal duties as the Curator of an expanding organization, he had to pitch in with hammer and saw and help in the construction of two new buildings.

Hardly had he established himself and family in his new home, when three months later he was saying farewell at a party given him by the trus-

tees on September 21st.

Bill Wylie made a host of friends in the Mystic community. He was an able and a popular lecturer to schools, clubs and other groups. He was known and respected professionally.

We wish him well in his new work.

## Interregnum

On October 10th, seventy persons heard and saw Robert Dewire talking on birds and showing his colored slides. The occasion was one of the regular events in the Wildlife Program, free to members, announced in the Fall issue of Trails.

The event was not only stimulating and worthy on its own merits, but it was remarkable in that the featured speaker was a young man only eighteen years of age, and in one sense, a product of the Sanctuary itself.

Four years earlier, almost to the day, Bob Dewire was a neophyte in the realm of nature-lore, a Freshman at New London (Conn.) High School. That he had some natural talent and love of his subject, even for a boy of fourteen, must be acknowledged. He had visited the Sanctuary once, maybe twice, and had met the then Curator, William Wylie. Wylie asked him to go with Sanctuary members on the next early morning bird-walk, Saturday, the 18th of October, 1958 (Dewire still remembers the date). It was held at Harkness Memorial Park. Bob Dewire went, and he has been a regular participant in every Saturday morning bird-walk since, and many of the Sunday walks.

With the resignation of Wylie in late September, the Saturday morning walks were continued without a break, even though the Sanctuary had no Curator. Bob Dewire led them, taking the walks of September 29th, October 6, 13, 20 and 27. Now a Freshman at Mitchell (Junior) College in New London, he has attained a maturity in his subject which should be the envy of every dil-

ettante, old or young.

Wylie was not alone in recognizing the young man's potentialities. Walter Moran and Kenneth Bates also saw something worth developing, and gave freely of their considerable knowledge, but it was Wylie who incubated the fledgling "birder" and to him Dewire freely acknowledges his debt.

Recently the Dewires have built a new home on Mary Butler Drive, in Waterford. There are approximately two acres of land, all wooded except for the space occupied by the house, and the plot is surrounded by twelve other acres of woods, part of it, fortunately, state owned. Conveniently close is a brook. That Bob had any say in the choice of the plot, he denies, but there can be little question that his influence was felt. In the short time the family has lived there, he has begun collecting ferns, has established a wildflower garden containing at least seven species of orchids, and he has planted several species of pines. Knowing that the surrounding wooded area, in the natural march of progress, will undoubtedly be built up eventually, he makes it a practise of transplanting to his own land anything he sees on his walks that he doesn't already have.

One thing they didn't have was an iguana. Bob's brother, who shares his love of Nature, has a particular fondness for snakes and creeping things. So when they saw an iguana at Orbit's pet shop for sale at \$1.79 or something like that, they took it home. They kept it all winter, but one day last Spring it escaped. They have seen it once or twice in the yard, but unless it comes back of its own accord, with the coming of snow and bitter weather, they fear it will not survive. The only other family pet is a beagle.

Well, that's Bob Dewire, but there were other volunteers who lent a hand during the interregnum between Curators William L. Wylie and Robert F. Kunz.

The Sunday morning walks have been led by Lawrence Brooks, with the exception of one, which was conducted by Walter Moran. President W. D. I. Domer and Treasurer Malcolm D. Mac-Gregor have been almost daily visitors. Katherine Dench has continued faithfully at her post. Gus Peterle put on the final touches to the Curator's residence, thus rounding out a contribution which few can match. Margaret Mac-Gregor plugged away at her membership and other chores; and under the chairmanship of Emma Cole, preparations for the Christmas sale are well under way. Even the school and other visitation programs have not suffered, for the volunteers have appeared as if by magic, when the need arose.

Some six hundred members should be grateful to those who have carried

on between Curators, should also recognize that there is something special to an organization which can inspire that kind of spirit. More than this, the future bodes well for an institution which can produce offspring the likes of Robert Dewire.

## The President's Corner

It is the duty of the President, insofar as it may lie within his limited capabilities, to be the polished diplomat, "make with the smile" and be all things to all people. So be it! However, even the President should, once in a while, be entitled to give voice to a small grievance.

On the evening of October 10th, a very delightful talk on the birds of this area, complete with really excellent movies, was given at the Sanctuary by our own Bobby Dewire. We had an attendance of about seventy people, but who do you think were in the great majority? Yes, you have guessed it, non-members! That is wonderful, of course, but where, oh where, were our members?

There are at least three answers to this question; either our members

- 1. Do not read their issues of "Trails,"
  - Do not read the local papers or listen to the local radio stations, or
  - Are not particularly interested in the activities of the Sanctuary.

Notice of our fall and winter events, to be held on the evening of the second Wednesday in every month except December, appeared in the Fall 1962 issue of "Trails." In addition, Ray Avellar did a very gaudy job of putting the notice in our local papers and on the air by our local radio stations. Apparently, non-members pay attention to these things!

More on this painful subject can remain unsaid. We do appreciate our members, particularly the dedicated nucleus whose efforts keep us going, but we do need the help of everyone in our small, but important projects.

Merry Christmas!

# **Christmas Bird Count**

The annual Christmas Bird Census will be held Saturday, December 29 this year, 12:01 a.m. to midnight. This annual count is an attempt to record as many species of birds as possible within a pre-determined area, during a continuous 24-hour period. Not only are the species recorded, but the individuals are counted as well.

The census is taken throughout North America, and throughout the world. The overall object is to determine the change in bird populations due to natural or man-induced causes. If you can join this important task for volunteers and want more information, contact Dr. Richard Goodwin, at Connecticut College, or your Curator. The growing importance of the effort is indicated by the following tabulation of the past five years:

1957	90 species	9,758 individuals
1958	103 species	10,572 individuals
	87 species	11,847 individuals
1959		14,336 individuals
1960	112 species	
1961	93 species	16,211 individuals
TOOT		cul J chocom

Frequently, weather and wind conditions of the day chosen, affect the count. Rough seas would have a detrimental effect. An unusually severe winter preceding the count might have decimated some particular population. On the other hand, the high count of 1960 was achieved on a day of miserable weather, with snow falling throughout the day; furthermore it was a week day, not a good day for a good turnout of volunteers. With a goodly number of able volunteers, even this record count of 1960 could be bettered, other conditions being favorable.

# Mighty Fir

Two Douglas firs that top all others known are to be found in Oregon and Washington. Measurements of the Champion and Runner-Up are given below:

nington. Weasurements of the Champ	Clatsop Fir, Oregon	Queets Fir, Washington
Diameter at breast height, feet Height to first live limb, feet Height to broken top, feet Diameter at broken top, feet Gross volume outside bark, cubic feet	15.48 104 200.5 4.5 10,095.	14.46 152 200 6.7 14,063.

# ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA AND SALE

Friday, November 30 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

General Chairman, Mrs. Hugh L. M. Cole Food Committee, Mrs. Harrison Jewett, Chairman

Mrs. M. D. MacGregor Mrs. Paul J. Moore Mr. Hugh L. M. Cole

Tickets — 75c

# **Conservation Is Many Things**

What Oregon's Governor Mark Hatfield called the "perils of Provincialism" is somewhat echoed in the attitude towards Conservation of Edward P. Cliff, Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, shown when he spoke in June before the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Washington.

On the meaning of Conservation, he said: "But what is conservation? What does conservation really mean?"

Is conservation of our natural resources simply preservation, which Webster defines as "the act of keeping from injury or destruction, defending from evil, protecting, saving, and keeping intact"? To many, it is.

To many, conservation is the enjoyment of the wildflowers of the forest growing in their natural environment, not to be picked, to be protected and

enjoyed.

To others, conservation is thrilling at the sight of a gaily colored bird in a spruce top outlined against a mountain peak, to be protected and enjoyed.

Or, it is the simple, restful beauty of

a clear-flowing forest stream.

Still concerned with preservation alone, some think of conservation as the forest fire lookout in his tower, the game warden, closed seasons on deer and other game animals, stopping of timber harvest.

Preservation is an important element of conservation in this country. This was the philosophy of conservation which led to the establishment of the Adirondack Forest Preserve in New York State, our national parks and monuments, the wilderness areas in the National Forest System. I subscribe to the idea of preserving the beauty of these lands.

Gifford Pinchot defined conservation as use of our natural resources "for the greatest number in the long run."

He believed that we could protect our resources best by using them in an efficent manner which would provide a constantly renewed supply. As a result of this concept of resource conservation, many people today think of conservation in terms of use alone.

If you ask the man in the street, "What is conservation?" he is apt to say, "Tree planting to replace the trees which have been cut, or plowing around a hill instead of up and down to prevent erosion." Or he points to contour plowing, strip-cropping, terracing, and farm ponds, and says, "This is good conservation." And it is.

The lumberman block cutting a forest of Douglasfir says, "This is good conservation." And it is, if it is properly done, even though the wilderness enthusiast looks at the same block cutting and cries out "devastation."

The new young forest will heal the scars of the harvest and in turn become a haven of wildlife and a place of beauty again. We must be practical as well as emotional. The economy and well-being of this nation demand wood for homes, furniture, schools, and for a thousand other uses.

Block cutting, contour plowing, big dams or small dams, and all the other uses I have talked about are really the practices of conservation — practices which people find economically rewarding, socially desirable, or esthetically pleasing.

For example, some of the best forest management in America is practiced on the lands of the large lumber and pulpwood companies. For them, conservation is economically rewarding.

For the recreationists, conservation means a clear stream for fishing, a good supply of wildlife to hunt, a quiet place to camp. Conservation is socially desirable to them.

To the preservationist, setting aside a scenic area is esthetically pleasing. And so on.

These are the many faces, the many factors, the many feelings of conservation.

Conservation is all of these things and more. It is a way of life—a way of thinking. Conservation is use plus beauty. It is a skillful blending of the use of our natural resources for material benefits with the safeguarding and enhancement of their inspirational and spiritual values through planned, responsible management.

As a forester, I believe that our natural resources must be managed. Trees must be harvested in areas designated for that purpose. Much of the wealth of America is based on the wood industry. I see no reason for conflict here. We will need even more wood as the years go by.

We need more water. We can get it by better watershed management.

Our watershed management scientists know that they can get more water for use by people through better management of the vegetative cover.

Our resource scientists are in agreement on one thing. With proper use and management, our natural resources

can not only be protected from loss and injury, but improved in both quality and quantity.

Will we listen to what they say? We listen to our doctors, our physicians, our space scientists. But in conservation, many presume to be experts. Hunters know more about management of game than the biologist who studies it, visitors to the woods know more about forest management than the forester. We have citizen experts for every resource problem. It is good that people are interested and concerned. Our great task and opportunity is to capture this interest and direct it in support of sound, intelligent, forceful action.

# Slaughter of Eagles Ends

There is a man out in Alpine, Texas, whose claim to distinction is that in the last 20 years he has killed 12,000 eagles. And it's to the credit of the 87th Congress that he won't be able to kill any more.

Almost unnoticed in the waning days of the session, legislation was passed extending the same federal no-hunting ban to golden eagles that was approved for bald, or American, eagles back in 1940. President Kennedy found time to sign the legislation during the tense days of the Cuban crisis.

There are many factors that have contributed to the decline of eagles. One is that they need a lot of room to move around. Another is their slow rate of reproduction, one nestling every four years. A third is the toll that hurricanes have taken among East Coast eagle nests in recent years. The rest are all man-made, and the greatest of these is hunting.

Both bald and the golden eagles winter in the South and Southwest. And it was in the Southwest that the hunting of eagles approached the slaughter stage that in the last century brought the extinction of the passenger pigeon and the near-extinction of the buffalo and whooping crane. Despite the arguments of wildlife specialists, ranchers

continued to blame eagles for preying on young stock, and they offered bounties.

Eagle hunters throughout the Southwest, working from light airplanes, shot down as many of the soaring birds as they could, not only for the bounty but for commercial traffic in eagle feathers. And despite the 1940 law; not many hunters took the time to distinguish between the golden and bald eagles.

Thus the new law not only gives much-needed protection to the golden eagle but will serve to reinforce the ban on killing the bird that is our national emblem.

#### -Harrisburg, Pa. Patriot News

Both the golden and Bald Eagle take four years to mature. This may be the reason for the writer saying "one nestling every four years." Normally, a pair of mature birds will produce one to three eggs a year, the average being two. There is a problem of fertility in the Bald Eagle which is being studied now by Federal agencies, one suspicion being that the use of pesticides may have something to do with it. This reduced rate of reproduction may be the basis for the statement above as to one nestling every four years.

### News and Views

President Domer has arranged a new exhibit of Sanctuary materials at the Stonington Library on Wadawanuck Square, Stonington. The exhibit replaces the previous one of shells and is the third such exhibit he has arranged for the enjoyment of local patrons of the library. The new display is a collection of rocks and minerals gathered during his recent trip through the middle and far West. It does not pretend to be definitive—space would not allow so large an exhibit—and is merely an assembly of rocks, ores and fossils which may be of interest to the young collector; and is, therefore, the more appropriate to its purpose. Books on the subject are made available by the library.

An account of Domer's trip through our western lands was crowded out of the last issue of **Trails**, but he accomplished a good deal bird-wise, also. In Texas he observed a black vulture, in California the road runner, and in the mountains at Sedona he saw a Mexican black hawk. On a beach in California he found curlew, willets, plover and "peeps."

Between Oceanside and Carlsbad, in California, he found a swamp owned by Nature Conservancy, full of coots, pied bill grebes and ruddy ducks. But most of all, he said, he loved the cactus

Back at home, President Domer was invited to represent the Sanctuary at the bi-ennial Mystic welcome to new residents in the area and "borrowed" the Stonington Library exhibit for that occasion.

Lawrence Brooks, a Stonington member, advises that the one Sunday morning walk he did not lead "between Curators," was on the Columbus Day weekend, and the reason was that he and Tom Gibney, one of our Westerly, R. I. members, joined up with the Rhode Island Audubon Society's second annual trip to Block Island. Under the auspices of that Society, some 150 persons made the pilgrimage with 140 different species reported observed. A similar weekend was enjoyed in 1961, with the renowned Roger Tory Peter-

son present, and was so successful that by demand alone it had to be repeated this year, may well become an annual event.

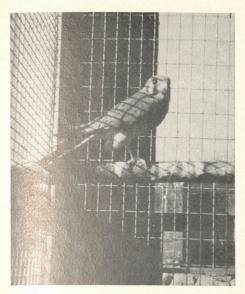
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Eastman, members on whose Ledyard, Conn. land birdwalks have often been held, entertained, on October 10th, the Evening Group of their church. Mrs. Eastman spoke on how to attract winter birds, described bird houses and feeding stations, identified birds, as Mr. Eastman acted as projectionist.

Dr. John S. Rankin, Jr., Director of the University of Connecticut Marine Research Laboratory at Noank, Conn., was invited to speak, in November, at Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, France, before the conference of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. His subject: Short vs. Long-Range Benefits of Marsh Destruction, based on his researches at the Mystic River estuary. Dr. Rankin has been a member of the Connecticut State Shellfish Commission for thirteen years, has spoken before our members on several occasions, and is remembered particularly for his friendly attitude towards Conservation in the recent local dispute over the establishment of a marina in the Mystic River.

Traveling with him on the same plane, for the same purpose and destination, was Dr. Richard Goodwin of Connecticut College. Dr. Goodwin is on the Board of Governors of Nature Conservancy, is Professor of Botany at the College and Chairman of that Department there. Like Dr. Rankin, he is an old friend of Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary.

While abroad both men will participate in field trips at the mouth of the Rhone River, one of Europe's most extensive and important semi-wild wetland areas.

Dr. Goodwin has tentatively promised us something on his trip in our next **Trails** and, of course, will have returned in time for the Christmas bird census announced elsewhere in this issue.



#### Killy, teacher's pet.

Under President Domer's tender care, Killy the sparrow hawk, never looked better. Now, with the new Curator's specialization in the predaceous birds, both Killy and the President have a backer upper.

On October 13, some 115 members of the New York Horticultural Society inspected our Sanctuary after having visited the Stonington Lighthouse Museum, toured Stonington gardens, and made a call at Mystic Seaport.

Robert F. Kunz made a hit with an audience of about sixty in the second of the current series of evening programs for members and friends of the Sanctuary. The date was November 14. His subject was, of course, his specialty, bird predators. It was his first public appearance for the Sanctuary as its new Curator. Not only did he make many new friends for himself, but it is safe to say that his appealing presentation brought his hearers to a higher level of understanding of this much misunderstood class of birds. Their function can be best illustrated by the statement that one pair of meadow mice can be responsible for one million descendants in one year, according to Sprunt.

## Why Do Woodpeckers Peck?

Editor:

I just learned from the **Reader's Digest** version of your article (Woodpeckers are Remarkable) that "after five years of research, the scientists still do not know what makes a woodpecker peck."

May I suggest that perhaps a bit of truth may be contained in an experience I had as a student in a German junior high school which combined the general curriculum with some forest school programs. It so happened that I was given this very problem of why woodpeckers prefer telephone poles. For many weeks I simply watched the birds, taking a rudimentary kind of statistical notes. I soon found that the peckers, of various species, came far more often to and stayed longer with the new line of telephone poles which followed a new road from the village to the school way up in the hills. The older line, now abandoned and stripped of wires, did not interest the birds nearly as much.

I then formed the working hypothesis that the difference may have to do with the **one** distinguishing mark—the presence or absence of wires. The rest was simplicity itself. I would listen, with an ear to the poles, to that noise which the peckers also seemed to listen to when they probed for insects.

The wireless old poles had little or none of that characteristic hum which in the newer line comes from the wind in the multiple wires. I assumed that this composite hum resembles perhaps the sounds of wasps or worms or ants behind the bark of the regular trees when the peckers test them for food.

It is just possible that a boy's naive realism has stumbled upon the right way toward the explanation of the problem which, nearly half a century later, seems still to vex the experts.

> **J. Schumacher** Sherman Heighs Woodbury, Conn.

-American Forests, October 1962

Cdr. J. F. Kurfess of New London has added to our duck population with a gift of thirteen ducks—a pair of Wood Ducks, five immature Mandarins (a drake and four hens), and six Call Mallards. Call Mallards originated in Holland and have been bred as decoys for the past one hundred years or so, resulting in a diminutive Mallard perhaps a third smaller than the standard Mallard size.

## Want Your Own Buffalo?

(Washington, AP)If you're hunting for a gift guaranteed to thrill even the most jaded young Indian—

Or perhaps just a conversation piece to enliven draggy patio parties—

For \$180 you can have a live buffalo to call your own. The orders should be sent to any of three refuges-Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Cache, Okla.: Fort Nibrara National Wildlife Refuge, Valentine, Neb.; and the National Bison Range, Moiese, Mont. A drawing will be held on Oct. 1 (oh, pshaw, it's too late!) to select successful applicants. Well, anyway, the Interior Department holds an annual big game sale and you can think it over until next Fall. The government also has a deal for those who prefer their big game packaged, frozen and ready for the freezer. Butchered buffalo go for \$220 to \$270 per carcass—depending on the process used. Quarters and halves are available, too. Official price list and conditions of sale can be obtained from the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, 25, D. C.

It is almost to be expected that one of the top conservationist Governors among the fifty, would be the Governor of Oregon. He is also one of the handsomest and, incidentally, is being mentioned as a possible Republican nominee for the Vice Presidency in 1964. Governor Mark Hatfield of Oregon warns against "The Perils of Provincialism." "I am concerned," says the Governor, "that the zealots who have infiltrated the conservation movement. with their 'monopoly concept' may so confuse the American public that orderly and wise use of our natural resources is somehow pictured as dishonand immoral . . . Conservation means all things to all men, apparently . . . Everyone agrees on the need for wise use, but serious questions remain in the minds of the provincialists as to the wisdom and adequacy of actions which have been taken, or not taken, to resolve some of our more pressing problems."

Governor Hatfield, apparently, has both feet on the ground, as a Governor

should.

The future of your Sanctuary depends on you. For the future of America its dedication and service to Conservation becomes more important with each passing year; must continue after you are gone. Your present contribution can achieve a kind of immortality for it and you if you will remember us in your will. Make yours a more than passing interest.

#### ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

General Chairman, David R. Winans, Jr.

Tickets, Wilson D. I. Domer

\$6.00 each

Ralph Stuart's Orchestra

# Officers and Trustees

1962 - 63

#### President

Wilson D. I. Domer

## Vice President

Mrs. Hugh L. M. Cole

# Secretary B. MacDonald Steers

Treasurer
Malcolm D. MacGregor

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	Term Expires
Mrs. Robert Anderson	1964
Raphael Avellar	1967
Laurence Anderson	1963
Mrs. W. A. Burrows	1966
Mrs. Hugh L. M. Cole	1964
Sheridan Colson	1966
Belton Copp	1963
Mrs. Donald Cottrell	1963
Mrs. Barry Dench	1963
George A. Dike	1966
Wilson D. I. Domer	1964
Ralph V. Farrell	1967
Mrs. Richard Harrington	1963
Mrs. Harrison L. Jewett	1965
M. D. MacGregor	1965
Mrs. M. D. MacGregor	1963
Mrs. C. V. Moore	1963
Mrs. Paul J. Moore	1966
Mrs. Harvey C. Perry	1963
Agustas Peterle, Jr.	1964
B. MacDonald Steers	1965
Ridley Watts	1965
David R. Winans, Jr.	1967
Mrs. George L. Wrenn, 2nd	1967

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Sunflower Seed

Wild Bird Mix

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There are only two ways, at present, of increasing your Sanctuary income. One is through additional memberships, and the other is through patronizing

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# YOU AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Members, now totaling over 600, reside in eighteen states and the District of Columbia.

Membership is open to everyone. The present membership includes both amateurs and professionals in natural history subjects and many who recognize the Sanctuary's educational influence in community life.

Four members are elected to the Board of Trustees annually to serve for terms of five years each. The Officers of the Sanctuary are elected annually by the Board of Trustees.

BECOME A MEMBER OR GIVE NOW! On the bottom of this page you will find a form for your membership application or contribution. All memberships include a subscription to our quarterly bulletin, *Pequot Trails*, and have the privilege of participation in all scheduled events.

TAKE AN ACTIVE PART! Opportunities will be offered for participation in field trips, Sanctuary visits, committee work and many other activities.

HERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY to affiliate now with an organization actively engaged in the promotion of a worthy community program of conservation education and recreation.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary				
Mystic, Connecticut	Date			
Please enroll me as a member of the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary for the year ending , 19 I enclose payment for the class of membership checked below.				
( ) Regular: \$5.00 annually	( ) Organization: \$10.00 annually			
( ) Patron: \$50.00 annually	( ) Sustaining: \$25.00 annually			
( ) Contributing: \$10.00 annually	( ) Life: \$100.00			
Corporation or Industrial Annual Contribution \$				
Signed M.				
CPLEASE SIGNIFY WHETHER MR., MRS., DR MISSI				
Permanent Mailing Address				

Please make checks payable to "P.S.W.S., Inc." and mail to The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Mystic, Connecticut

# Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc. Mystic, Connecticut



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